

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-5, 11-14, and 21-32 are pending in the application, with 1 and 11 being the independent claims. Claims 6-10 and 15-20 were previously canceled. New claims 29-32 are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

On March 18, 2005, Applicants filed a Supplemental Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement in the present application. The Supplemental Amendment attempted to add new claims 29-45. Unfortunately, a Notice of Allowance was mailed on January 14, 2005, but Applicants only became aware of the Notice of Allowance on March 23, 2005. The undersigned is still investigating why the Notice of Allowance was not received. In any event, the Supplemental Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement were filed after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance. In light of this, Applicants request that the Supplemental Amendment not be entered in the present application. Furthermore Applicants present a revised amendment herein.

Applicants are co-filing the present Amendment with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and an Information Disclosure Statement. The presently co-filed Information Disclosure Statement re-cites the reference cited in the Information Disclosure Statement of March 18, 2005. Furthermore, the present Amendment adds new dependent claims (claims 29-32) similar to those presented in the Supplemental Amendment of March 18, 2005 (claims 29-31), but does not include new claims 32-45 of

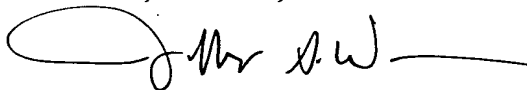
the Supplemental Amendment. Instead, Applicants will pursue the subject matter of claims 32-45 in a continuation application.

Applicants note that claims 1-5, 11-14, and 21-28 were indicated as allowed in the Notice of Allowability issued in the present application on January 14, 2005. New claims 29-32 depend from the allowed claims, and thus Applicants assert that they are also allowable. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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